



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **DCAB 2005-10:** The text indicates grab bars at shower must comply with Fig. 37. Fig. 37 appears to require a continuous grab bar (also see Fig. 35(b)). The DOJ and Access Board indicated that continuous grab bars are not required. In order to provide a continuous grab bar they must be made at great expense. Is it equivalent to provide three separate grab bars?

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS §103-50,

ADAAG Section 4.21.4 Grab Bars.

For accessible showers, individual grab bars as allowed by the ADA/ABA Accessibility Guidelines Section 608.3 Grab Bars provide equivalent facilitation to a continuous grab bar as shown in the ADAAG Fig. 35, 37, and 57. A minimum 3-inch clear distance between adjacent grab bars shall be provided.

[Rul: 11/05] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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